



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution of Virginia in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

VIRGINIA BEEF MONTH

WHEREAS, beef cattle production is the second largest segment of Virginia agriculture, contributing \$434 million to the state's economy in 2012; and

WHEREAS, beef cattle, grazing on more than 2.5 million acres of pasture land, support fully or in part the livelihood of more than 25,000 Virginia farm families; and

WHEREAS, beef cattle production represents the largest single segment of U.S. agriculture, with cattle and calves adding more than \$50 billion to the U.S. economy in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. raises 20 percent of the world's beef with seven percent of the world's cattle, and in 2011, the value of beef exports exceeded \$5 billion for the first time in history; and

WHEREAS, scientific research continues to document the role of lean beef in lowering bad cholesterol, building muscle and cognitive health, and providing health benefits to people of all ages; and

WHEREAS, a three-ounce serving of lean beef, about 150 calories, is a top dietary source of protein and nine other essential nutrients;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize May 2014 as **BEEF MONTH** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Terence R. McAuliffe".

Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Morgan Kousser".

Secretary of the Commonwealth